

STATEMENT OF: Mark Jacob STOBBE
DOB: August 27, 1957
ADDRESS: [REDACTED] River Rd., St. Andrews, Manitoba
PHONE: [REDACTED]
EMPLOYMENT: Provincial Government
DATE: 2000-10-25
TIME: 1010 hrs.
PLACE: PC 5D4 @ [REDACTED] River Rd., St. Andrews, Manitoba

O: The date is October the 25th, 2000. The time is 1010 hrs. I'm in police car 5Delta 4 at [REDACTED] River Rd., River Rd. in St. Andrews, Manitoba. I'm in the car with Mark Jacob STOBBE ah, spelled S-T-O-B-B-E. His date of birth is August the 27th, 1957. Ah, he resides here at [REDACTED] River Rd. His phone number is [REDACTED] and Mark works for the Provincial Government. Mark I understand to start here that you did call the police last night.

A: Yeah.

O: Okay what, what can you tell me about that?

A: Um, it was last night about, I don't remember exactly the time, it was around 8:30 or 9:00 um, ah, ah, I had turned on the baseball game and ah, ah, Bev said that if I wanted to watch the baseball game she was going to go into Selkirk and do some shopping because it was 10% off day.

O: OKAY.

A: At the Safeway. And ah, she went in to do, shop, she'd gone there in the afternoon but they didn't have the little kids carts to push around so she didn't get very much. Um so she left um, ah, to go to the Safeway and um, ah, I watched a bit of ball and talked to my brother-in-law on the phone and tried to phone my dad and ah, then Jacob started making restless noises and so I went up and laid down with him in his bed and ah, I fell asleep. And I woke up about, I think it was about 2.30 or something and ah, found the lights were still on in the house. I think the bottom floor. I looked around but there was no Bev so I phoned the police and then I phoned the hospital and then I phoned ah, Betty and Ed and ah, Ed started looking all over the place in Selkirk, sorry.

Q: OKAY. Um, do you mind if I ask you some questions?

A: No, go ahead.

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Q: QKAY. Just to go back to what you said, you spoke to your brother-in-law last night on the phone.

A: Yeah.

Q: What time would that have been?

A: I think it would have been about 10:00 o'clock.

Q: Qkay what did you talk to him about?

A: Um, I had first talked to Betty because ah, we need to get some linoleum or new tiles down in the upstairs bathroom and ah, ah, one of their neighbours ah, is a linoleum jobber, so I was phoning Betty to get his name and phone number and then I talked to Ed for awhile about um, the ah, NDP nominating meetings that he'd been out to earlier in the evening for the federal election.

Q: QKAY.

A: Um, that's, I think that's about all we talked about.

Q: QKAY what's their last name?

A: Um hers is Rowbotham as well and his is [REDACTED]

Q: OKAY so Betty would be Beverley's sister.

A: That's right.

Q: Qkay. Um, yesterday was Tuesday.

A: Mm, hm.

Q: Can you tell me what you did all day yesterday starting from when you got up?

A: Sure. Um, ah, I got up and went to work. Um, I got there probably ah, ten to seven or so. Um, and ah, um did some computer and office work for awhile and then I had a meeting at ah, 10:00 o'clock for um, a, um planning the next couple weeks press releases for the government.

Q: QKAY.

A: And then ah, ah, went back to my office and had lunch and then um, I spent most of the afternoon in um, I did two presentations for two different groups about some polling that our Health Department had done.

Q: OKAY.

A: Ah, just explaining what the polling was showing and then ah, ah, at about 4:30 had a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Health and a few others about um, planning for health communications and that finished at about 5:30ish

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Q: QKAY.

A: Um, so then I drove home ah, um, we had supper. Ah, um, ah, what did we do after supper? Um, I think, I think we were just watching the kids draw something or do some colouring.

Q: QKAY.

A: And then, and then um, OKAY what else happened tha yesterday? Ah, then I brought the kids upstairs for a bath and um, [REDACTED], my five year old had a kind of meltdown because his brother hopped out of the bathtub before he did

Q: QKAY.

A: Um, so he cried for awhile and sat on my knee for night lunch and um, ah, and then I took him up before, for um, a story and to talk to him for awhile and got him in a better mood and laid with him for awhile before he went to sleep and ah, I got up before he was going to sleep. And then Bev was putting [REDACTED] to bed so then I came out into the front yard because ah, [REDACTED] had left his coat on that bike over there.

Q: QKAY.

A: And so I brought the coat into the house and while I was out in the yard some ah, a girl and her mother came up in a pick-up truck selling toffees for the school. So I came in the house to get some money and bought some toffee and ah, chatted with Bev (c/u) and then I think I went back upstairs to see Bev, seen her put a screw in it. And ah, ah, when I came down Bev was talking on the phone to her mother. Um, so I turned on the TV to see who was winning the ball game and ah, Bev finished the call with her mother and ah, came into the, into the family room and said oh if you're watching ball I want to buy groceries. So off she went.

Q: OKAY. Now what can you tell about what Bev did yesterday?

A: Um, [REDACTED] went to kindergarten so she would have put him on the bus about 8:30. Um, then she and [REDACTED] hung out in the house for a little while and then she said they were playing out in the yard till about noon or so. Then they had a, had lunch and then she went into Selkirk and um, ah, they were at a playground for awhile. Ah, I don't know which one. And then um, ah, I think she said they went to McDonald's for a juice and [REDACTED] played on the play structure there.

Q: OKAY.

A: And then ah, they went to Safeway and um, ah, she was going to ah (c/u) a \$300-\$400 grocery shop but she didn't get that much because ah, [REDACTED] was a bit restless and they didn't have the ah, the little kids carts for him to push around.

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O: OKAY.

A: So she came home. I'm not su... well, she would have been home before [REDACTED] bus got here which is I think 4:15.

Q: Okay.

A: And then um, ah, between then and the time I got home ah, I think they did some colouring and she bought [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] his Halloween suit um, so he was excited about that when he got home. And um, ah, she made supper while the kids were watching some TV. They usually watch um, they call it the Crack Brothers I'm not even sure what the real name was. Its um, its um a couple, three guys that talk to animals and I'm not (c/u).

O: OKAY.

A: Channel and then um, and then they watch however much Blues Clues they'd get to watch before supper's ready and pretty much their after so, sort of after school routine.

O: OKAY.

A: Um, ah, so we had tacos for supper and the other thing that did is [REDACTED] turn at his playschool in Selkirk to ah, um, bring a snack so she just, while I was um an sitting with [REDACTED] on my knee while he was just drawing eating at lunch. She was ah, I got thinking he's ah, um.

Q: That's fine.

A: Um, she and [REDACTED] were fooling around in the kitchen and he kept hijacking her (laughs).

O: OKAY. OKAY, um, I'd just like to ask you some back....background information on yourself and Bev.

A: Sure.

O: When did you two meet?

A: Um, we met, it would have been in, for the first time in December of 1991. Um, ah she says we met once a couple years earlier which I don't remember but (laughs). We had a fair number of um, common acquaintances so um, ah, so we were um we'd both been living in Saskatoon and ah, um, when the government changed in, in Saskatchewan in '91, in November I went down and was ah, working in Regina and ah, I was working for the Minister of Social Services at that point and ah, one of the things we did early in '92 was um, transfer the branch that she was working in to another agency and ah, she was um, ah, one of the union people in that negotiating process. Um, so we both had these meetings together and then we

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started dating and she got transferred up to Prince Albert. Um, and ah, ah we dated long distance and then ah, she moved back to Regina summer of '93 and we got married in September. Um.

O: So you were married in September '93.

A: Yeah September 5th.

O: How long did you stay in Regina?

A: Ah, until this June.

Q: OKAY. In June of 2000 you moved here?

A: Yeah.

Q: OKAY and what brought you out here?

A: Um, a new job opportunity and ah, um, was the primary reason, I was tired of my job in Saskatchewan and ah, got offered one here and ah, ah, neither of us have family in Regina and ah, ah, Bev's sister lives just up the ah, on [REDACTED] so that's another added attraction. And ah, ah, then Bev's mom moved here at the same time she was having some trouble. Um, she was living independently and she was like completely isolated in Swift Current.

O: QKAY.

A: So ah, um, um so we packed up her stuff too and we, and ah, sort of (c/u) attached to one of the nursing homes in Selkirk.

Q: OKAY. What's Bev's mothers' name?

A: Ah, [REDACTED]

Q: OKAY and where does she live in Selkirk?

A: Ah, its ah, [REDACTED]

O: [REDACTED]

A: [REDACTED]

Q: [REDACTED]

A: [REDACTED]

Q: QKAY I know where that is. How was yours and Bev's relationship recently, over the last little while?

A: It was pretty good. Um, ah, when we moved into this house we she was quite unhappy for the first month or so that we, we got here. Um, she was happy to be in

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Winnipeg but um, arrived just before all the rain and all the mosquitoes and ah, so she found herself trapped here. Um, in a relatively isolated place, sort of house and the kids couldn't go outside, the mosquitoes. And so she um, she had a fairly miserable July.

O: OKAY.

A: Um, ah, but then as things dried out and then sort of fall activities started and school and she was having a really good time here.

O: OKAY.

A: And then we got along quite well.

Q: OKAY. Was there any tension at all between you and Bev for any, any reason at all?

A: Not particularly. I mean, tiffs. Like the fact she got grumpy around menstruation period and you learn to expect it (laughs).

O: OKAY.

A: Um, ah, but ah, hm, no, we had a pretty good marriage.

O: OKAY. Um, were you happy here?

A: Oh yeah, I love it here.

O: Yeah.

A: Or I did, still will.

O: Um, did ah, Bev drink at all?

A: Ah, very, very light social drinker. Um, I would say maybe ah, three drinks a week of either a beer or a glass of wine or a vodka and orange.

O: OKAY. How about yourself? Do you drink at all?

A: Ah, yeah, probably about five or six drinks a week. I rarely have more than two drinks in a row, sort of and twice a week or so.

O: OKAY. Um, is Bev on any kind of medication at all?

A: No.

O: Is she under a doctor's care for anything at all?

A: Ah, no. She's had a little bit of arthritis in her wrists from time to time. A doctor cared for that but it hadn't been particularly bad lately. And so she didn't. She'd found the kids doctor, kids a doctor here in Selkirk but ah, I don't know if she's been to a

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doctor for herself since we moved here.

Q: So her, is her health pretty good then?

A: Yeah.

O: Yeah.

A: Yeah.

O: Um, no recent problems that would have surfaced at all with regards to her health?

A: No.

O: OKAY. How was Bev's mental health?

A: Um, other than that grouchy once a month um, it was pretty good.

Q: OKAY.

A: She was, she was um, as I said she had her July. Um, I'm starting a new job and ah, um, being in the city during the day she was trying to get settled out here but ah, the kids not being able to go outside and stuff but ah, that passed she didn't particularly like this house. We only had a couple days for house hunting or something but um, bought this place (c/u).

O: OKAY.

A: Um, ah, so we were, we'd be talking about putting it up for sale, finding another house somewhere in the same area. Because she liked St. Andrews but she wasn't wild about this place.

Q: OKAY. Has, has she ever seen a psychologist or psychiatrist at all?

A: Um, she, not to my knowledge ah, pretty sure no. She ah, or I guess to be accurate she, we about six months after ah, our oldest son was born we went to a thought we weren't getting along as well as we should be so we went to a marriage counsellor there, two or three visits and she basically kicked us out. Said she wished everybody got along that well (laughs). Um.

Q: And this, was this in Regina?

A: In Regina yeah.

Q: OKAY.

A: And I can't even remember the person's name. It was through the ah the employee assistance program at work. And then um, ah, after [REDACTED] was born I think she had a bit of post-partum ah, depression and her family physician prescribed her some medication for two to three, four months. I forget exactly how long but ah um, (c/u)

Q: So would that have been like an anti-depressant type medication?

A: I think so yeah, I'm not sure.

Q: Do you remember the name of it?

A: I can't remember. It was a [REDACTED] in ah, in Regina.

Q: Atchathan?

A: Yeah. She, her office is on Albert Street.

Q: QKAY. I went to high school and university in Regina. I lived ah, right behind the Keg on South Albert.

A: That's not too, too far from where we lived there. We were ah, we were on Cullitan Crescent, um, right behind Campbell Collegiate.

Q: I went to Campbell Collegiate, that was my high school yeah.

A: Probably walked by our house because we were right beside the walkway between ah, between Campbell and Cullitan Crescent.

Q: I lived, lived on Hogarth Place.

A: That would be pretty close.

Q: Pretty close.

A: Yeah.

Q: QKAY yeah, so I know where you guys lived QKAY. I can't remember the name of the area though.

A: Ah, Whitmore Park.

Q: Whitmore Park yeah, QKAY. Has there been any stress in your life recently?

A: Um, well stress in my job ah.

Q: That's stressful.

A: Um, ah, but I think I'm enjoying it.

Q: QKAY.

A: So um, you know I was really glad when the decision was made to come here ah, and things were going pretty well at work. So um, c/u, stresser

Q: What about for Bev, was there any stress in her, her life?

A: Um, she um, sort of a c/u July ah.

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Q: QKAY.

A: You know when sort of like this whole front area was under water about to the c/u

Q: OKAY.

A: Um, so it was just sort of like what am I doing here? (Laughs)

Q: QKAY.

A: Um.

Q: The stress of the move and all that.

A: The move and, and stuff and she ah, ah, basically from August, mid August on and especially since school and other kind of activities like that that started ah, she's really been enjoying staying at home. Um, um, ah, she's starting to get active in, sort of around and about. She ah, um, ah, she's on the board of a playschool in Selkirk. Um, she's got a human resource background and they just hired so she was just in the process of helping hire an executive director.

Q: OKAY.

A: And um, ah, she volunteered to go on the Board of ah, food bank in Selkirk but they kinda gave her the cold shoulder. C/U involved because she was sort of trying to get, trying to start a new Beaver leader c/u. Which she got a kick out of.

Q: QKAY.

A: Ah.

Q: And what about work stress for her?

A: Her only work stress was that she was afraid that she might find a job too soon.

O: Qh really.

A: Yeah. She ah, ah, she um, um, she didn't, didn't want to go back to work until after the new year.

Q: QKAY.

A: And ah, ah, she was quite marketable so her biggest fear was getting cut off UIC Um.

O: QKAY.

A: Ah, in fact today she had scheduled a, a job interview with the Department of Justice ah, so we'd been sort of discussing the way she could do poor enough not to get the job but not poor enough that she would blow it forever C/U

Q: Um. Why did she want to wait till ah, the new year to go back to work?

A: Just to spend time with the kids.

Q: QKAY. What car was your wife driving yesterday?

A: The Crown Victoria.

Q: QKAY and that's registered to who.

A: That's registered to me.

Q: To you. OKAY. Ah, what kind of Crown Vic or what year is the Crown Vic?

A: It's a '94.

Q: What kind of, what was the clothing that Bev was wearing when she left the house yesterday?

A: Um, she was wearing a ah, kind of a pink ah, sweatshirt and a jean jacket, I think she was wearing jeans and ah, I know that she was wearing um, ah, was kind of brown, open heeled shoes and she'd been asking if she, if I thought it was warm enough for them.

Q: QKAY. Was she wearing anything on her feet other than the shoes?

A: No.

Q: Socks or nylons or?

A: Bare feet.

Q: Bare feet.

A: There was a, there was a discussion sort of related to what the weather c/u.

Q: QKAY ah, did she carry a purse or anything like that?

A: Yeah she had a purse.

Q: QKAY, can you describe the purse for me.

A: It was black um, um, it had a couple of different compartments she kept her wallet and comb and stuff like that in the bigger compartment.

Q: OKAY.

A: And ah, then there was a zipper compartment that ah, she'd keep all her credit cards and stuff and cheque kind of stubs in it. Mm, I'd say it was about yea by yea kind of thing.

Q: The purse?

A: Yeah.

Q: So we're looking maybe a foot by.

A: Mm, not quite that big.

Q: Not quite a foot.

A: About this big I think.

Q: Be 8 to 9 inches.

A: Yeah, probably.

Q: OKAY and by about 4 or 5 inches.

A: Yeah about that.

Q: OKAY. Did it have a strap or anything?

A: Yeah it had a strap.

Q: OKAY and did she take that with her last night?

A: Yeah.

Q: QKAY. Did she take her wallet with her last night?

A: Ah, I would assume so. It was always in her purse.

Q: OKAY. Um, did she have a belt at all?

A: Ah, I don't know if she was wearing a belt.

Q: OKAY. Did she have anything in her hair, a hat, ah barrets?

A: No.

Q: Anything like that? OKAY. Does she wear any jewelry?

A: Yeah, she wears um, a, she was wearing I know for sure her wedding rings. Ah and she was wearing a watch. I don't know if she had earrings on or not.

Q: QKAY. What kind of watch are we looking at here?

A: It's a, was a gold bracelet, ah, well not really gold, but gold coloured bracelet

Q: OKAY.

A: Um, a Citizen I think it was. Um, fairly heavy, c/u, the ah, face was about this big

Q: So quite thick.

A: Yeah, quite a thick watch.

Q: OKAY was there an inscription on the watch or anything like that?

A: No.

O: No, how many wedding rings was she wearing?

A: She wore two. There was one that was like this.

Q: OKAY.

A: That's got an inscription on it. And ah, it's the same, it's September 5th, 1993.

Q: OKAY.

A: Inside.

O: The date of your anniversary.

A: Yeah. Um.

O: QKAY and does she, the second ring would be.

A: And the second ring is ah, it's a fairly big ring. It's um, ah, quite wide and it's, on each side of the diamond there's three um, sort of little steps of gold so it actually stands out about this far from her finger.

Q: OKAY.

A: So then you have the two (c/u) on each side stepping down that surround the diamond.

O: QKAY.

A: Ah, the diamond was a little over a carat.

O: OKAY. Was there anything inscribed on the c/u?

A: Not on the c/u.

Q: Just the wedding band?

A: Just, just the wedding band.

Q: OKAY other than those two rings does she wear any other rings?

A: Ah sometimes. I, I don't, I couldn't, I don't think she was last night but I couldn't swear to it.

O: OKAY, how about a bracelet? Did she ever wear bracelets?

A: Sometimes.

O: How about last night?

A: Ah, I don't know.

Q: Was she?

A: I don't think so because she was pretty casually dressed.

Q: QKAY. Do you know how much gas was in the car last night?

A: (Sighs) I don't. Um, on Sunday night she was at a church thing in Winnipeg and she, she'd forgotten her purse at home that night and um, ah, she was laughing. She thought that she was going to have to. I was at a, I was at a meeting at the legislature and she thought she was going to have to phone me to send some money and she found um, [REDACTED] wallet in the car and got ten dollars out of that. Um, so I really don't know whether she filled up ah, on Monday or yesterday. I suspect she probably did if she was in Selkirk. Ah, so there was, it would either be quite empty or quite full. It wouldn't be in between.

Q: Do you have any idea what the mileage would have been on that car?

A: (Sighs) It was about 138.

Q: 138,000 kms?

A: Kms. And that's the um, the second odometer, the, ah, first odometer conked out at about 68,000 so there's actually two hundred and some on the car but only one hundred thirty some on the odometer. There's a sticky thing on the car.

Q: Oh for a reminder for next.

A: Well no, un, there was, they had, when they changed the odometer apparently they had to anchor something on the car so you couldn't sell it as lower mileage.

Q: OKAY. Do you remember when your last check-up was?

A: Um, that would have been the safety inspection about a month ago when I got the chance the plates changed over. And that was at ah, the garage in East Selkirk.

Q: By um, the Tempo? I think it's a Tempo.

A: I saw there was a convenience store and some service bays there.

Q: Yeah, OKAY. How was the car? Was it in proper working order?

A: Yeah. Yeah it ran well.

Q: OKAY, no problems. Any problems with the steering or ah, tires or anything like that?

A: No it was a good, solid, cop type car.

- Q: Yeah, OKAY. Um, when Bev goes to shop in Selkirk or when she goes to Selkirk can you tell me how she usually goes?
- A: Um, she usually drives up River Rd. ah, for a little ways and then she takes one of the cross roads over to ah, ah, Hwy 9. She takes different ones a little bit to look at different houses because, we were thinking that we would sell and ah, for quite awhile her favourite road was um, Liss, sort of about 90% of the time she'd travel down Liss because there were a couple of houses up for sale
- Q: L-I-S-S?
- A: Yeah.
- Q: OKAY.
- A: Um, that's about half way between here and c/u road. Um, and then um, the previous week, like last week we'd been almost invariably going up um, Koshninsky or something. Which is closer to the school and ah, because there was a house that backed onto that that was up for sale and then we ah, I doubt if would have gone up that road since there was an open house on Sunday and we went to it. Lost interest in her.
- Q: OKAY. What, what road would she have taken last night?
- A: I don't know which of those crossroads she would have taken. My guess is probably Liss, just because of habit but I don't know that for sure.
- Q: Did she plan on going anywhere else besides Safeway last night?
- A: No, she just said she was going to go get some food.
- Q: OKAY. Um, would she have had to go to the bank for that?
- A: She almost always pays with interact so.
- Q: OKAY. Um, which bank do you guys deal with?
- A: Bank of Montreal.
- Q: The ah, branch in Selkirk?
- A: Yeah, we just transferred over there awhile ago.
- Q: How many accounts do you guys have?
- A: Oh, um, got a chequing account, savings account, um, I've got ah, each got an RSP, um, and ah, the kids have got an RESP there. So, and we got a mortgage there and a line of credit at the Bank of Montreal. And we got a c/u
- Q: OKAY. Ah, from her debit card did she have access to both the chequing and the

savings account? OKAY. Um, do you both have the same card number or are they different or?

A: Um, they access the same account but they're different card numbers, different cards and numbers.

O: OKAY. How much was in the chequing account?

A: Ah, I don't know 4-\$500, maybe six. Depends, I'd taken \$100 out um, Sunday night when I was coming home from my meeting at the Leg. and I think there was five hundred and some odd and ah, so I think she'd spent about \$100 on groceries in the afternoon and ah, I don't know whether she got gas. I don't think that she was going to take anything out other than that on Tuesday.

O: OKAY how about the savings account? How much would be in there?

A: Ah, somewhere between eleven and twelve thousand.

O: OKAY ah, did Bev have a credit card?

A: Yeah, she had ah, a lot more than me ah, (laughs) but that makes sense cause she did most of the shopping.

O: OKAY.

A: Um, ah, she had a Master Card that was, I think she, she, we'd had a joint one that was, started out as mine before we got married and then she had one in her own but I think she like, cancelled that one.

O: OKAY.

A: And then um.

Q: So she would have a, you would have a joint one together.

A: Yeah.

O: And then you thought she might still have one on her own?

A: Yeah. Um, she was talking about cancelling that sort of the, the solo one Ah, I don't know whether she actually did or not.

Q: Okay.

A: Um, she did most of the bill paying and stuff. Ah, um, she had a Visa an, a Sears a Bay. She c/u. Ah, that's probably it cause she didn't have any gas company cards

O: OKAY. Who was the Visa with? Which bank?

A: Um, c/u here. I haven't the foggiest idea.

Q: Because I think TD and Royal and CIBC all deal with VISA.

A: Yeah. Everybody but Bank of Montreal.

Q: Yeah, OKAY.

A: It was probably CIBC but I don't want to. I wouldn't want to be dependant on that

Q: QKAY.

A: She, she didn't use it that often so. She did the bill paying so. Um, I'd have a rough idea of what was outstanding on the balances but um.

Q: That's her.

A: Her domain.

Q: Qkay. Um, you said you had a mortgage at the Bank of Montreal.

A: Mm, hm.

Q: OKAY. How much was the mortgage?

A: Ah, it was \$154,000 borrowed to put down for this place.

Q: Did both of you have life insurance on the mortgage?

A: Ah, yeah.

Q: Um, did you have any other loans like car loans or?

A: No, um, I think there was probably six or seven hundred dollars outstanding on the line of credit. Um, maybe a thousand on one Master Card but other than that I don't think there was any, other than sort of current, cause she bought a pair of shoes for the kids or something.

Q: OKAY.

A: Um.

Q: OKAY um, is there an insurance policy on Bev's life?

A: Um, there would be I guess from my group thing at work. Um, I think it's \$60,000. Um, I might have a screw up when I was coming out here they ah, um, the person I talked to in HR had told me that the um, ah, the group policy didn't kick in until you'd been employed for six months.

Q: OKAY.

A: So (coughs) so we'd extended my group policy from the Saskatchewan government and I think for her that was \$100,000 but then when we got here we found out that the group fund here was effective immediately so we cancelled that one in August.

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I guess.

O: That was in Saskatchewan?

A: The Saskatchewan group, it was with the Co-operators. We were um actually c/u, refunded c/u.

O: OKAY.

A: Said we didn't need it.

O: OKAY so who do you have life insurance now?

A: Um, I don't even know who carries the policy. It's just whatever I signed when

O: One at work.

A: At work.

O: OKAY. Is there anything unusual about the car that you can tell me?

A: No. It's about as normal as a old fogie car is.

Q: OKAY. Um, has the car been in any accidents recently?

A: Um, no but the um, the one thing, the grill on the front um, was broken a bit and has been for about oh six or eight months. Ah, we haven't got around to getting it fixed. Um, ah, and I really don't know, for the life of me how it got broken.

O: OKAY. What part of the grill was broken?

A: Um, just along the bottom along the front there.

Q: OKAY. How about to the bumper on the front? Is there any marks on the bumper there?

A: Ah, a couple scratches, like ah bumper stuff.

Q: OKAY, which side of the bumper would that be on?

A: God, ah, this may sound weird but I don't even remember. Ah, I know there's one mark there but.

O: What colour would that mark be?

A: It looks kind of um, reddish or something where the colour of the plastic has been scraped away, not a bright red but sort of a rusty kind of. And that's plastic underneath.

Q: OKAY. How about any yellow marks?

A: Ah, I don't.

Q: Any part, was there any yellow marks on the front bumper?

A: I don't think so.

O: OKAY.

A: Ah, there was, there's a couple of scrapes on the bumpers, at least one. I don't know if, you know, I, you just go with something that you stop noticing.

Q: QKAY.

A: Um.

Q: Did you buy this car new? Have you had it since '94?

A: Ah, I bought it in '95 but it was a year old.

Q: OKAY. QKAY can you tell me what was in the car?

A: Bunch of toys in the back seat. Um.

Q: Like a, like a child car seat?

A: No. Our kids are big enough that ah, don't fit in car seats any more but they had a whole bunch of um, bad guy toys I call them, stuff like that, action type figure type stuff cluttering up in the back, the back seat. Ah, ah, glove compartment would have had the registration stuff. Ah, the, the ah, book for the car. Something else in that car. Um, the trunk there would've been a couple of blankets and a bungie cord or two, a bunch of loose straw from flax bales I moved over the septic tank.

Q: Are there any tools in the trunk?

A: Ah, I don't think so. I didn't habitually carry tools in the trunk so.

O: Like even a jack to change a tire.

A: Qh yeah, underneath the.

Q: Okay. The mat.

A: Yeah, but ah, I don't know if I've ever had a flat tire on that car so I wouldn't even know how to go about changing it.

Q: Okay.. Other than the toys in the back seat was there anything else in the car at all?

A: Ah, there was a green mosquito netting hat left over from the summer (laughs)

Q: Qkay.

A: Um, that [REDACTED] likes to carry toys in sometimes. I think that was in the car.

Q: Okay.

A: Um, I don't know, probably candy wrappers and stuff. Maybe a Gatorade bottle, I don't know if it got picked up.

Q: QKAY. Any food wrappers in the car?

A: Probably, I don't know, two kids.

Q: Yeah, exactly. Other than the smaller toys is there any bigger items that were in the car?

A: I don't think so.

Q: QKAY. Do you have a garage here?

A: Yeah.

Q: Is there an opener in the car?

A: Ah, it's in the ah, big car.

Q: QKAY. She, did she have her own set of keys for the car?

A: Yeah.

Q: QKAY and how many keys would be on that ring?

A: (Sighs) Would have been, I think there would have been both sets of car keys ah for both cars, would have been house keys.

Q: OKAY.

A: Um, c/u.

Q: Did she have a fob, like a key fob on that ring?

A: I don't think so.

Q: OKAY. Does Bev have any hobbies?

A: Not particularly no.

Q: Um, close friends around here in Selkirk?

A: Not around here other than she's pretty close to her sister.

Q: OKAY.

A: Ah, an' we except maybe close friends c/u you know just work acquaintances c/u and ah, and then she's been meeting some people through the nursery school, starting to meet a few people through the church but.

Q: Which church do you go to?

A: Unitarian.

Q: Uni...Unitarian?

A: Yeah.

Q: Where's that?

A: Um, at the services are at Grant Collegiate. Ah, they're just building or re-building the church down on Wellington.

Q: QKAY. So this is a church in Winnipeg?

A: Yeah.

Q: QKAY. Ah, does Bev have any other brothers and sisters other than Betty?

A: Yeah, she's got a ah, sister by the name of Barb.

Q: And where's Barb?

A: She's in Alberta. And ah, around Rocky Mountain House.

Q: QKAY.

A: And she's, she phoned from Louisiana this morning. I'm not sure what she's doing down there.

Q: Okay.

A: And then.

Q: How about any brothers?

A: No brothers.

Q: Just the two sisters.

A: Two sisters.

Q: QKAY. Um, her mom lives here in Selkirk at the ah, [REDACTED]

A: Yeah.

Q: What about her father?

A: He died about ah, 25 years ago roughly. He was quite a bit older than ah, Bev's mom.

Q: QKAY. Um, you have two boys.

A: Yeah.

O:

A: Yeah.

Q: OKAY.

A: Yeah.

O: OKAY. How do you spell Bev's first name, with a?

A: Ah, B-E-V.

O: Yeah.

A: E-R-L-E-Y

O: Does she have a middle name?

A: Ah, Justine.

O: Can you spell the last name for me?

A: R-O-W-B-O-T-H-A-M.

O: And Bev's birth date is when?

A: Ah, December 8th, 1957.

O: OKAY do you have any brothers and sisters yourself?

A: Yeah I got one brother and two sisters.

O: And where do they all live?

A: Um, my brother lives in Pine House in northern Saskatchewan and ah, my two sisters live in Saskatoon.

O: OKAY how about your mom and dad?

A: My mother lives in Saskatoon and my father lives in um, Sparwood, B C

O: Do you have any family here in Manitoba at all?

A: Ah, just ah, one of dad's sisters ah, c/u seen c/u heard about that c/u

O: OKAY. And what about close friends for yourself?

A: Ah, none that I'd describe close yet but there's a few people that I knew before living here that ah, I've had a little bit of contact with and ah, um, there's work acquaintances basically.

Q: OKAY.

A: Quite friendly but not bosom buddies yet or anything.

Q: OKAY. How about in Saskatchewan?

A: Um, quite a few friends.

Q: Do you still keep in touch with them?

A: Ah, some, yeah. Bev a bit more so than me. I, I tend to keep in closer touch with some of the work people.

Q: Um, was Bev ever in trouble with the police at all? Was she ever charged with any offences?

A: If she did it was a secret.

Q: Can you tell me what Bev's been up to the last week?

A: Ah, (sighs) gee. Um, yesterday I described. Sunday um, what did she do Sunday? I think she just hung around the house in the morning with the kids outside and um, ah, and then she went to um, ah, she took [REDACTED] to playschool and she was at her mother's house with [REDACTED] ah, for awhile and I think they went to Canadian Tire or Home Hardware or something. Ah, and then after [REDACTED] got out of playschool um, ah, in the evening she stayed home and I took the kids for a walk down to the little landing at the river and she stayed home and read the newspaper. Um, put the kids to bed, watched TV. Um, on Sunday ah, oh, we just puttered around the house in the morning and then um, ah, the Canadian Tire product she'd bought at noon time and then we were at ah, Betty and Ed's house for a big dinner. We ducked over to this open house that behind his house c/u. And I went to a meeting and she came home then she went to her church thing. And ah, so the babysitter came here later and I dropped her home. I don't know what time but she got home about ten. On Saturday she had a meeting with some other Board member too from the playschool ah, screening resumes for ah, Executive Director and um, then she went to lunch with her mom and went shopping. Friday, Friday, Friday. Friday we worked around the house a lot, I took the day off.

Q: I'll ask you to do the same for yourself. Like what did you do Monday and we'll go back?

A: Okay. Monday I went to work. Um, c/u I get there. Couple of meetings, some work in the office and ah, and then I came home and ah, ah, ah, took the kids for a walk and ah, oh yeah the cat got lost down there so we had to go back a couple times to, to find her but she ended up finding in a tree.

Q: Qkay.

A: Ah, it was about 10:00 we went to bed. Ah, um, Sunday worked around the house

in the morning and I don't know, um, her mom went with her to Canadian Tire and to her sister's for lunch and open house and I went in for a meeting at work. It started at 5:00 and went until about 8:00. I had to go home because the kids were with the babysitter so it had to be before 8:30. Took the babysitter home and put the kids to bed. Bev got home about 10:00 or something. Um.

Q: Saturday.

A: Saturday um, did a bit of work around the house in the morning while Bev was ah at the screening meeting. Put the bales over the septic field and stuff like that and then um, in the afternoon we took the kids out and we did a few garage sales. c/u sold some toys and we um, ah, bought some ah, flax bales and we came home and we cooked supper. We c/u.

Q: QKAY.

A: Um.

Q: Friday.

A: Friday I stayed home from work cause there was some stuff to do here. Um, ah, changed the ah boards to the doorway on the bottom. It was rotted out. Um, so I went to, had go into town. Went in with [REDACTED] to the um, c/u mart to get the stuff for that. Then ah, spent the afternoon on that. Bev was quite ticked at me because I ripped this thing out and she had some other things, tasks sort of on the top of her priority list so she kind ah, she was ah, (SIDE 1 QF TAPE ENDS)

Q: Just flipped the tape over. It's ah, 11:11 hrs. on Wednesday, Qctober the 25th, 2000 and ah, we'll just pick up where we left here on Friday.

A: Ah, um, in the evening I, I think we just watched a bit of TV. Um, ah Thursday went to work, came home, Same as Wednesday.

Q: Was ah, was Bev one to stop for hitchhikers or?

A: Stop, no.

Q: Stop and pick anybody up?

A: No, no she was um, ah, fairly adventuresome when she was younger. She travelled all over the world, backpacked all over Asia and stuff. Um, jumped out of planes and stuff like that and, but she got a lot more cautious when she had the kids.

Q: Did she ah, if approached by a stranger was she friendly? Would she talk?

A: Ah, yeah if a stranger or somebody approached.

Q: QKAY.

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A: If they were non-threatening looking, she would have certainly been friendly

Q: OKAY. And was she a trusting person?

A: Ah, not excessively but not, she wasn't paranoid.

Q: OKAY. Did she have a particular gas station in town where she went to get gas?

A: Ah, we usually went to the Shell because of Air Miles.

Q: OKAY that would be the Shell on Main St. there?

A: Yeah there's two of them and.

Q: Yeah.

A: It wouldn't matter to us which one.

Q: OKAY. Did Bev smoke?

A: No she quit about a year before we met.

Q: OKAY so she wouldn't stop off anywhere for cigarettes or?

A: No, maybe a chocolate bar although I doubt it because she ah, she went clutching, she'd popped a few toffees before she left home. I think she had a few in her hand

Q: OKAY those would be the toffees you bought from.

A: From the kid yeah.

Q: OKAY. Would Bev stop for a hitchhiker?

A: She wouldn't stop for a hitchhiker. She might stop for a vehicle in distress

Q: Like would she stop if someone would wave her over or maybe c/u?

A: Ah, somebody would have to wave her over.

Q: And she'd.

A: Ah, she'd be fairly cautious I think.

Q: OKAY um, you mentioned that the shoes on her feet have an open heel

A: Mm, hm.

Q: Do they come off very easily?

A: Yeah. They just flip off. Almost like Berkinstocks except.

Q: OKAY, almost like a sandal type.

A: Yeah.

- Q: QKAY. Did Bev have any other friends other than Betty and Ed in Selkirk that she might have gone to see.
- A: Not that I can think of. Like the, the only other people that she was meeting in Selkirk were from the playschool. That was sort of preliminary, fairly preliminary stage of you know, like I don't think she would have been good enough friends to pop over unannounced or nothing.
- Q: Um, where's the playschool located?
- A: Um, I think it's on McLean. It's just if you go down Main St. you turn ah, right and um, it's near the ah, about as far up as c/u. I was only there once for a meeting a couple months ago so.
- Q: QKAY, do you know the name of it?
- A: Selkirk Playschool.
- Q: OKAY.
- A: It's in the Lions Housing Complex or something.
- Q: QKAY.
- A: It's a housing complex there.
- Q: She have any reason to go there last night?
- A: I don't think so. She had been, she had set up the interviews that she was going to do the paperwork on. She'd been talking to Betty and her mom about child care arrangements while she was doing that on Friday.
- Q: OKAY. Ah, can you think of anywhere else she might have gone last night other than the Safeway?
- A: Oh that's sort of, this is why I got so paranoid just cause she was just going to the store.
- Q: OKAY. Ah, did she say what she planned on buying in the Safeway there last night?
- A: Lots of food. Um.
- Q: OKAY.
- A: Like on those, she's a big bargain hunter and on the 10% off days or sort of those kind of promotions she ah, would like to stalk up on a lot of meat, a lot of juice and stuff like that.
- Q: She didn't get what she had been, originally intended to get in the afternoon?
- A: Yeah. She went, she went expecting to do a three to four hundred dollar shop and

ah, got one hundred dollars worth of salads and cheese and stuff like that.

Q: QKAY.

A: So basically sort of the, she got the sort of medium stuff but not the big base bulk stuff.

Q: QKAY.

A: So ah, I guess that's why she decided to go back.

Q: QKAY. When she left here yesterday who all was home?

A: Ah, me and the kids.

Q: And were Ed and Betty over?

A: No they were at their house or well, ah, Betty was home because Bev had been talking to her on the phone earlier and then Ed was at this um, nominating meeting and I talked to him on the phone, be about 10:00 o'clock or something.

Q: Um.

A: And she talked to her mom on the phone just before she left.

Q: QKAY. I'll ask it anyway, is it possible that she could have been having an affair with anybody?

A: I would be the most surprised person in the world.

Q: Qkay.

A: Um.

Q: Did you ever have any suspicions of such?

A: None whatsoever in ah, seven years of marriage and that's no, no flirtations, no um, unexplained absences, no unexplained expenditures, no none of that

Q: Is there anything else you want to tell me about what happened ah, last night?

A: I don't.

Q: OKAY.

A: I just wish I hadn't turned on that ball game cause I could just, if I could just sort of spur of the moment oh well, I'll go and shop.

Q: So it wasn't a planned thing, like she wasn't planning going out last night or?

A: No. It was pretty spur of the moment like she was, she'd been, she'd been complaining that she hadn't got enough groceries. Ah, I guess she just wanted to

let me watch the ball game a bit.

Q: Was there any problems here at home with vandalism or people hanging out or ah you know things going missing or strange phone calls?

A: The only weird phone call was about a month ago. Um, I answered. She was either sleeping, I don't know, I can't remember. And ah, it was from some cousin that she hadn't seen since they were thirteen.

Q: QKAY.

A: And then he wanted to talk with her. Um, and ah, he lives in Calgary.

Q: What's his name?

A: Ron. (Laughs) Cousin Ron.

Q: Do you know?

A: No I don't have a clue. Betty would probably know.

Q: QKAY.

A: Um, so.

Q: What was weird about the phone call?

A: After thirty, thirty odd years c/u.

Q: Ah, what did he want?

A: Wanted to talk. That's what he said and ah, ah, so I gave his message to Bev and ah, she asked, and apparently he's phoned, he phones Betty from time to time Betty's comment was that ah, if you phone him be prepared to spend a lot of time

Q: Did Ron ever come out here to visit Betty or give Betty a hard time in that respect?

A: Ah, not to my knowledge. Like Betty didn't.

Q: She wasn't alarmed.

A: She wasn't alarmed by him, it was just a pain in the ass.

Q: QKAY. That's what I was getting at.

A: Ah, and so I mean on the scale of weird, I guess it wasn't that weird but it was just

Q: I was just something out of the ordinary.

A: Yeah.

Q: QKAY. I'll just look at my list here. I, I can't think of anything else to ask you at this

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time. There might be something that comes up as the days go by or I may have to go back and we may have to come back and get another statement from you but

A: Yeah.

Q: Maybe for today I'll end the statement there. It's 11:21 hrs. on the, October the 25th 2000.

S.T. Peddle, Cst.
Major Crime Unit (Selkirk)

mv

Proof read by Sgt. Sheldon Peddle 2011-04-05